

RESOLUTION No. 12-392

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama are apprised that a distinguished citizen, Pastor John Jude, will be honored with the "Religion Award" during the Eleventh Annual Leadership Awards Program sponsored by the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., held at the Ernest L. Knight Reception Center on the beautiful campus of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University on June 2, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, Pastor John W. Jude is a native of Huntsville, Alabama, and a graduate of S.R. Butler High School. He is a husband of 33 years to Pamela and the father of five sons, who have blessed him with many grandchildren. He accepted Christ as Savior at age 14 and two years later, he was elected to serve as Sunday School Superintendent at the Blackburn Chapel Church under the leadership of his mentor and Pastor, McKinley Jones. Pastor Jude also served as a Sunday School teacher. In 1993, Pastor Jude yielded to a lifelong call to ministry and so the journey began. For the past 16 years he has pastored the Pleasant Grove Church in Athens, Alabama. God has blessed the Pleasant Grove Church with tremendous growth, helping it blossom into a ministry that seeks to meet the needs of the community in many ways. The Pleasant Grove Church presently has over 25 viable ministries to include a thriving Youth Ministry of over 175 youth and children; a tutoring and homework assistance program on Wednesday nights; and mentoring youths to prepare them to be productive citizens who contribute positively to our society; and,

WHEREAS, under Pastor Jude's dynamic leadership, the church's outreach ministries include a monthly Feed the Hungry ministry, which continues to grow. This ministry also includes clothing giveaways each month. During one Thanksgiving session, the church distributed 150 food boxes, including turkeys, all in addition to its monthly food giveaways. He oversees the church's partnership with Habitat for Humanities, financially and physically, to provide homes for those who otherwise may not be able to acquire one. Within the span of a single year, the church contributed to the building of three (3) Habitat homes and participated in the construction. The church has adopted the Athens Limestone County Boys and Girls Club and provides financial and other resources to assist this group in providing a safe and wholesome environment to the youths of Athens and Limestone County, as well as partnering with the Community Action Partnership Agency to offer assistance to the residents of this area with utility assistance and winterization of the homes for qualified applicants; and,

WHEREAS, each year, the church provides scholarships for graduating high school students. It has supported the academic matriculation of students to Alabama A&M University, the University of North Alabama, Tuskegee University and others. The church also partners with MTM Corporation, a youth-oriented outreach ministry, and provides assistance to the Unsung Hero Scholarship Fund. Moreover, the church has provided scholarships to deserving students through this organization, reaching through scholarships at least eight (8) deserving students; and,

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Pastor John Jude

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WHEREAS, Pastor Jude is a graduate of Alabama A&M University with a B.A. in telecommunications, and he holds graduate degrees from Heritage Bible College and has pursued doctoral coursework at the Andersonville Theological Seminary as a candidate for the Doctor of Ministry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, gratefully acknowledge and congratulate Pastor John Jude, 2012 "*Religion Award*" Honoree, and extend best wishes to him and the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., for continued success in all future endeavors.

ADOPTED this the _____ day of _____, 2012

President of the City Council
of the City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the _____ day of _____, 2012.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville,
Alabama